DC TV COMIC
THE SATURDAY MORNING SUPER-STAR!
WITH ONE MAGIC WORD...
35¢
NO. 30
AUG.
30688
SHAZAM!
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
OH, WHAT JOY! MY GREATEST ENEMY IS BEING DESTROYED--
--BY MY OWN SUPERMAN OF STEEL!
Featuring: THE ENTIRE SHAZAM FAMILY!
JS.

CHOSEN TO RECEIVE THE POWERS OF SIX ANCIENT ELDERS, YOUNG NEWSCASTER BILLY BATSON HAS ONLY TO SPEAK THE NAME OF THE ANCIENT WIZARD
SHAZAM!
AND IN A FLASH OF LIGHTNING, HE IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL...
SOLOMON-WISDOM
HERCULES-STRENGTH
ATLAS-STAMINA
ZELUS-POWER
ACHILLES-COURAGE
MERCURY-SPEED
CAPTAIN MARVEL
STORY: E. NELSON BRIDWELL
ART: KURT SCHAFFENBURGER
VINCE COLLETTA
COLOR: JERRY SERPE
ONCE I WAS HERO OF STEEL MILLS--BUT NOW I CHANGE TO VILLAIN! I GONNA WRECK THIS MILL!
NOT AFTER MY FISTS FINISH DENTING YOUR METAL HIDE, MAGARAC!
THE LUMBERJACKS TOLD TALL TALES OF PAUL BUNYAN--SAILORS RECOUNTED LEGENDS OF OLD STORMALONG--AND STEELWORKERS TALKED OF JOE MAGARAC! AND NOW IT SEEMS HE'S COME BACK--BUT WITH A DIFFERENCE--AS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL FINDS WHEN...
CAPTAIN MARVEL FIGHTS THE MAN OF STEEL
J-4635

SHAZAM!, Vol. 3, No. 30, July-Aug., 1977. Published bi-monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Application to Mail at Second Class Pending at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1977 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC Comics Inc., 155 Allen Blvd., Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735.

Jenette Kahn, Publisher
Joe Orlando, Managing Editor
Jack Adler, Vice-Pres., Production
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Paul Levitz, Editorial Coordinator

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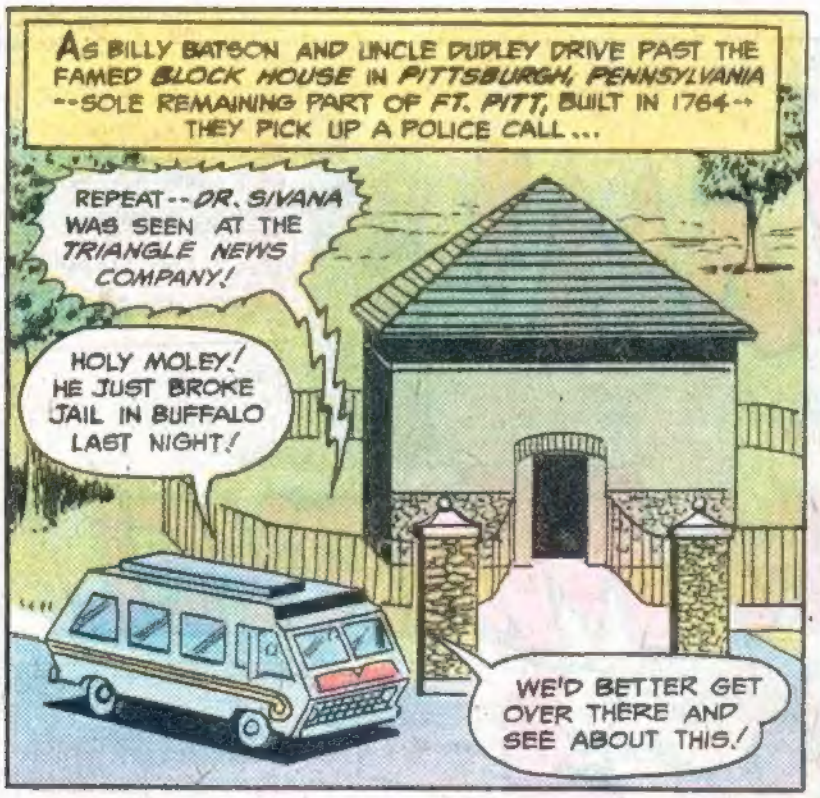
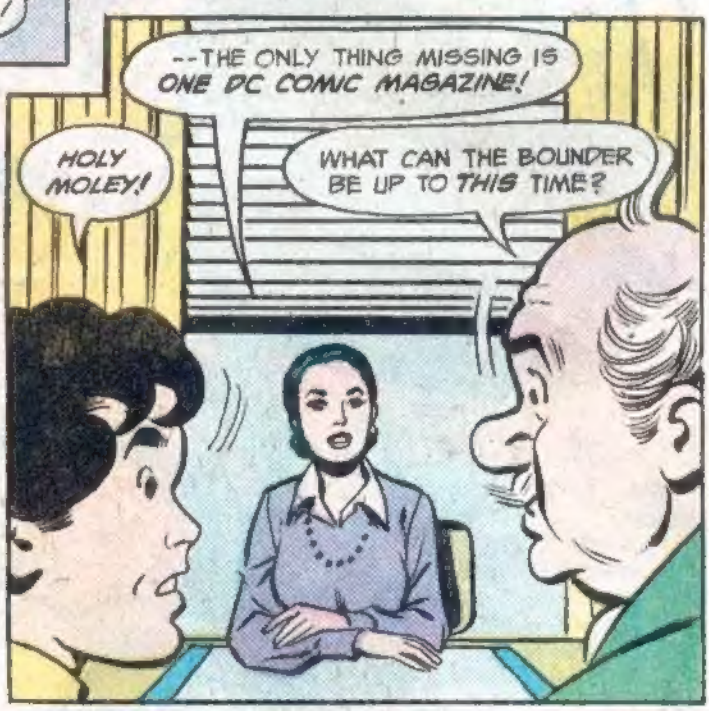
Advertising Representative,
Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc.
355 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 391-1400


AS BILLY BATSON AND UNCLE DUDLEY DRIVE PAST THE FAMED BLOCK HOUSE IN PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA --SOLE REMAINING PART OF FT. PITT, BUILT IN 1764-- THEY PICK UP A POLICE CALL...
REPEAT--DR. SIVANA WAS SEEN AT THE TRIANGLE NEWS COMPANY!
HOLY MOLEY! HE JUST BROKE JAIL IN BUFFALO LAST NIGHT!
WE'D BETTER GET OVER THERE AND SEE ABOUT THIS!

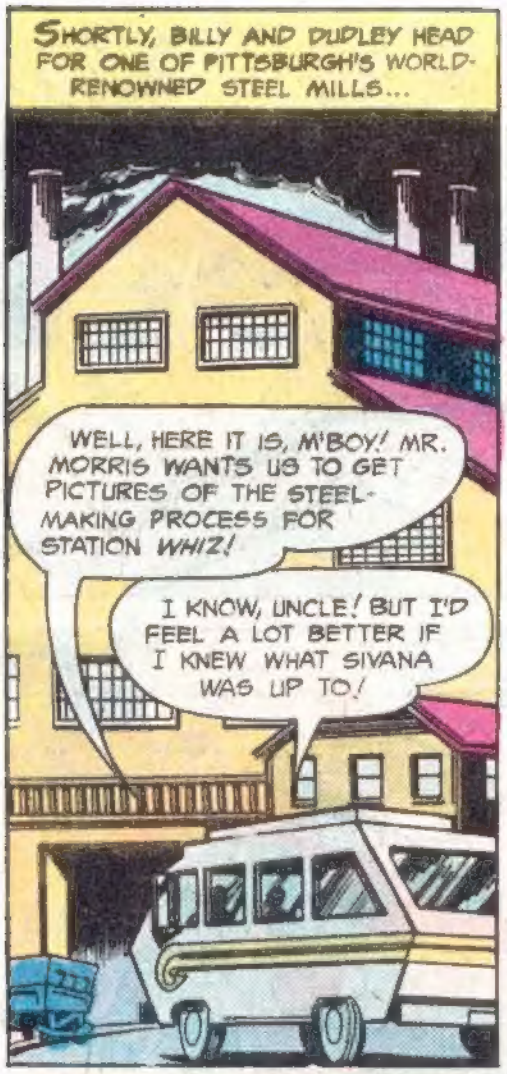
AT TRIANGLE NEWS, THEY SPEAK WITH GENERAL MANAGER MARILYN WATSON...
YOU'RE SURE IT WAS SIVANA?
SEVERAL EMPLOYEES SAW HIM--AND THAT'S NOT A FACE YOU FORGET EASILY!

BUT HE MUST HAVE BEEN AFTER SOMETHING! WHAT DID HE STEAL?
THAT'S THE ODD PART--

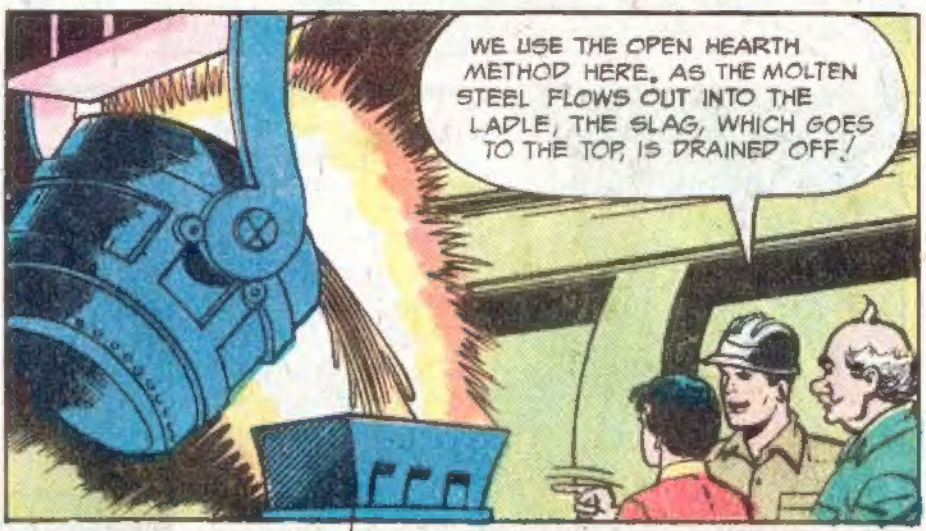

--THE ONLY THING MISSING IS ONE DC COMIC MAGAZINE!
HOLY MOLEY!
WHAT CAN THE BOUNDER BE UP TO THIS TIME?

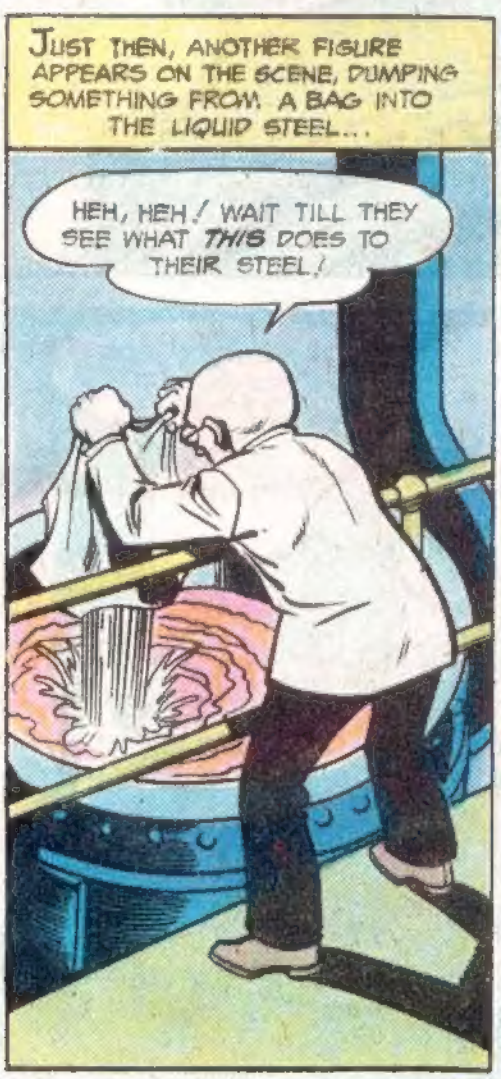
AND NOW LET'S JOIN THE VILLAIN IN QUESTION... DR. THADDEUS BODOG SIVANA...
HEH, HEH, HEH!
I KNOW I COULD HAVE BOUGHT A COPY OF THIS, BUT I PREFER TO STEAL!

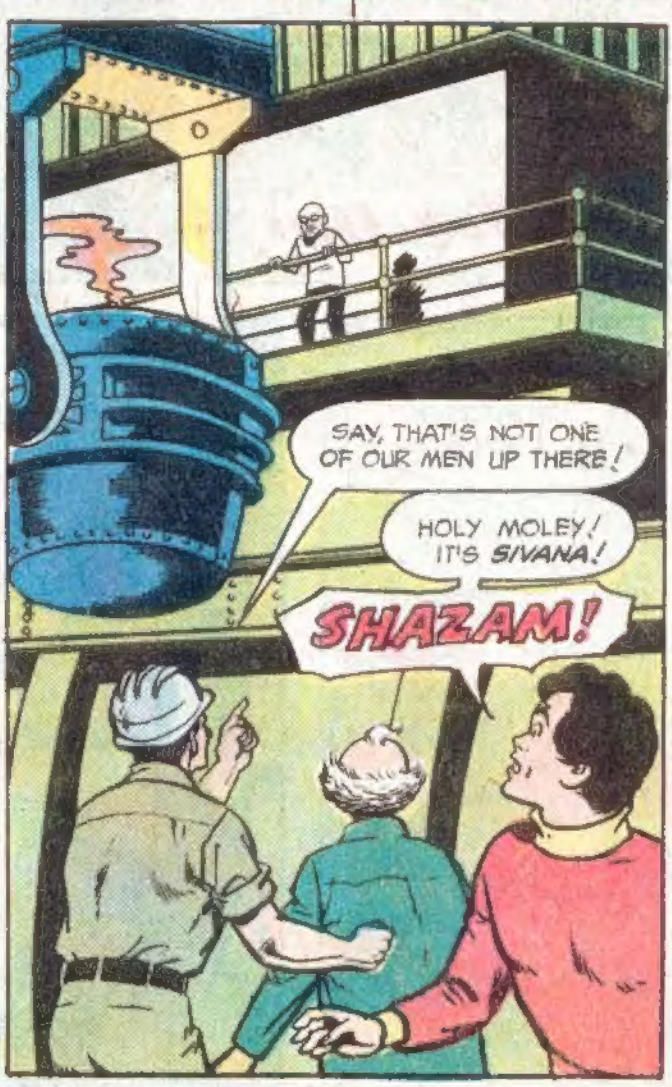
SO THIS IS THE MAN OF STEEL! WELL, I'M GOING TO MAKE MY OWN--
--AND WHAT HE'LL DO TO CAPTAIN MARVEL! HEH, HEH!
SUPERMAN'S ACTION COMICS
STOP IT, YOU'RE WRECKING THE WORLD!


SHORTLY, BILLY AND DUDLEY HEAD FOR ONE OF PITTSBURGH'S WORLD-RENOWNED STEEL MILLS...
WELL, HERE IT IS, M'BOY! MR. MORRIS WANTS US TO GET PICTURES OF THE STEEL-MAKING PROCESS FOR STATION WHIZ!
I KNOW, UNCLE! BUT I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER IF I KNEW WHAT SIVANA WAS UP TO!

ONE OF THE STEEL-WORKERS SHOWS THE TWO AROUND...
UP THERE AT THE TOP OF THE BLAST FURNACE, A SKIP CAR CARRIES THE INGREDIENTS THAT WILL GO TO MAKE THE STEEL--IRON ORE, COKE AND LIMESTONE!


WE USE THE OPEN HEARTH METHOD HERE. AS THE MOLTEN STEEL FLOWS OUT INTO THE LADLE, THE SLAG, WHICH GOES TO THE TOP, IS DRAINED OFF!


JUST THEN, ANOTHER FIGURE APPEARS ON THE SCENE, DUMPING SOMETHING FROM A BAG INTO THE LIQUID STEEL...
HEH, HEH! WAIT TILL THEY SEE WHAT THIS DOES TO THEIR STEEL!


SAY, THAT'S NOT ONE OF OUR MEN UP THERE!
HOLY MOLEY! IT'S SIVANA!
SHAZAM!

BOOOM!

THE MAGIC LIGHTNING INSTANTLY TRANSFORMS BILLY INTO THE MIGHTY CAPTAIN MARVEL...
CURSES! IT'S THAT BIG RED CHEESE!
GOT YOU THIS TIME, SIVANA! SABOTAGING THE STEEL MILL, EH?
AHA! A WORKER! I'LL USE HIM TO DIVERT CAPTAIN MARVEL'S ATTENTION!
EEEYYYYIIIII!
HOLY MOLEY! YOU ALMOST BECAME PART OF THE STEEL!
CAPTAIN MARVEL! THANKS!
YOU'RE SAFE-- BUT SIVANA GOT AWAY!
I'M JUST GLAD I DIDN'T WIND UP IN THAT LADLE--
--BUT-- GOOD GOSH! THERE IS A MAN IN THE LADLE--A MAN OF STEEL!
IT MUST BE JOE MAGARAC--COME BACK!
4
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

MAGARAC *? WHY THAT MEANS "JACKASS" IN SERBO-CROATIAN!
YES--BUT THAT'S WHAT HE CALLED HIMSELF!
* PRONOUNCED MAH-GAH-RAHTS. --LINGUISTIC NELSON
"YOU SEE, JOE WAS BORN MANY YEARS AGO--THOUSANDS, SOME SAY--INSIDE AN IRON MOUNTAIN. AND THERE HE STAYED TILL THE DAY A MINER FOUND HIM..."
HEY--WHO ARE YOU--AND HOW YOU GET HERE?
I JOE MAGARAC--
--I BEEN HERE LONG TIME!
"JOE WENT TO THE STEEL MILLS AND BECAME THE GREATEST STEELMAN OF ALL--BECAUSE HE WAS REALLY MADE OF STEEL!"
OH, BOY! LOOK AT DAT! HE SQUEEZE MOLTEN STEEL INTO RAILS WITH HIS BARE HANDS!
SURE, DAT'S EASY!
"HE WORKED AROUND THE CLOCK--ONLY STOPPING LONG ENOUGH TO EAT FIVE BIG MEALS A DAY..."
ALL I DO IS EATIT AND WORKIT, SAME LAK JACKASS DONKEY! DAT'S WHY I USE NAME MAGARAC!
"BUT THE TIME CAME WHEN THE STEEL MILL SHUT DOWN ON FRIDAY..."
WHY IS MILL SHUTIT UP ON FRIDAY? I WANTIT TO WORK!
I GOT TO SHUT IT UP! YOU WORK SO FAST WE GOT NO STEEL LEFT FOR WHOLE WEEK!
CLOSE
"YES, JOE WORKED SO FAST, HE WAS EVEN PUTTING MEN OUT OF WORK. THEN HE HEARD THEY PLANNED TO TEAR THE OLD MILL DOWN AND BUILD A NEW ONE..."
YOU MELT ME DOWN FOR STEEL AND USE TO MAKIT NEW MILLS. DEN YOU HAVE BEST MILLS FOR ANYPLACE, YOU BETCHA!
5

THAT'S THE WAY MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER, WHO CAME FROM CROATIA, TOLD THE STORY.
HE AND OTHER EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS WORKED IN THE MILLS AND MADE JOE THEIR "PAUL BUNYAN."
BUT NOW-- HE'S BACK!
SURE-- I COME BACK TO STEEL MILLS!
I COME HERE TO WRECK DIS PLACE!
HEY--THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE JOE MAGARAC YOU TOLD ME ABOUT!
SMASH
CRASH
HA! I JUST STOPIT A MINUTE AND EAT DIS STEEL!
THAT'S WRONG, TOO! THE ORIGINAL MAGARAC ATE REGULAR FOOD-- NOT STEEL!
KRUNCH
MUNCH
EXACTLY-- I'M SURE SIVANA PUT SOMETHING IN THE STEEL TO CAUSE IT TO FORM THIS-- THING!
KLANG
UNNGGH!
6

SURE-- SIVANA PUT ROBOT BRAIN IN STEEL TO MAKE ME FORM AROUND IT--
--BUT HE PUT IT IN SOMETHING ELSE-- TO MAKE STEEL EXTRA HARD!
HOLY MOLEY! MY PUNCH HARDLY FAZED HIM!
NOW I GONNA PUNCHIT YOU, RED FELLER!
THUD!
I'LL ADMIT YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD--
--BUT I HADN'T HIT YOU WITH A REALLY HARD BLOW!
KA-POW!
WOW! YOU KNOCKED HIM RIGHT THROUGH THE ROOF!
AND SO HIGH, HE'S ALREADY OUT OF SIGHT!
GOOD! SHAZAM!
7

BARAMM
ONCE AGAIN THE MAGIC LIGHTNING STRIKES--CHANGING THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL BACK TO BILLY...
SAY, WASN'T THAT SOMETHING, BILLY?
SURE WAS! BUT NOW, HOW ABOUT FINISHING OUR TOUR BEFORE WE START FILMING?
BUT IS MAGARAC REALLY FINISHED? LET'S LOOK AT SIVANA'S HIDEOUT, SOON AFTER...
AH, MAGARAC! YOUR HOMING DEVICE BROUGHT YOU TO ME! DID YOU WRECK ALL THE STEEL MILLS IN PITTSBURGH ALREADY?
NO! BIG RED FELLER STOPIT ME!
CURSES!
THAT BIG RED CHEESE IS ALWAYS GETTING IN MY WAY! THERE MUST BE A WAY TO DO AWAY WITH HIM!
BUT--OF COURSE! BY NOW, HE MUST HAVE CHANGED BACK TO BILLY!
HE CHANGE TO WHAT?
HE HAS ANOTHER IDENTITY.. ONE THAT ISN'T SUPER-POWERED! CATCH HIM WHEN HE'S BILLY BATSON AND YOU CAN WIPE OUT CAPTAIN MARVEL FOR GOOD!
8
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

AND NOT LONG AFTER, BACK AT THE STEEL MILL...
WELL, WE KNOW WHAT WE WANT FOR THE SHOW. I HOPE THE TRUCK AND CREW FROM THE LOCAL STATION GET HERE SOON!
I'LL STEP OUTSIDE AND LOOK FOR THEM!
BUT WHEN BILLY IS OUT OF SIGHT OF THE OTHERS...
HA! I GETIT YOU, KID! BUT I NOT GONNA KILL YOU YET!
MMMMPPHH!
SIVANA WANTIT YOU TO SEE ME WRECK ALL STEEL MILLS BEFORE I KILLIT YOU! SO I SQUEEZE DIS STEEL INTO GAG FOR YOU!
I WELD DIS WITH MY BARE HANDS! DEN YOU NEVER BE ABLE TO YELL!
I DON'T NEEDIT TO TIE YOUR HANDS! YOU NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO GET GAG OFF!
LET'S SEE -- I HAVE A PENCIL AND NOTE PAD IN MY POCKET!
HOPE SIVANA INCLUDED KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO READ IN THAT ROBOT BRAIN!
HUH? WHAT YOU WRITE?
9

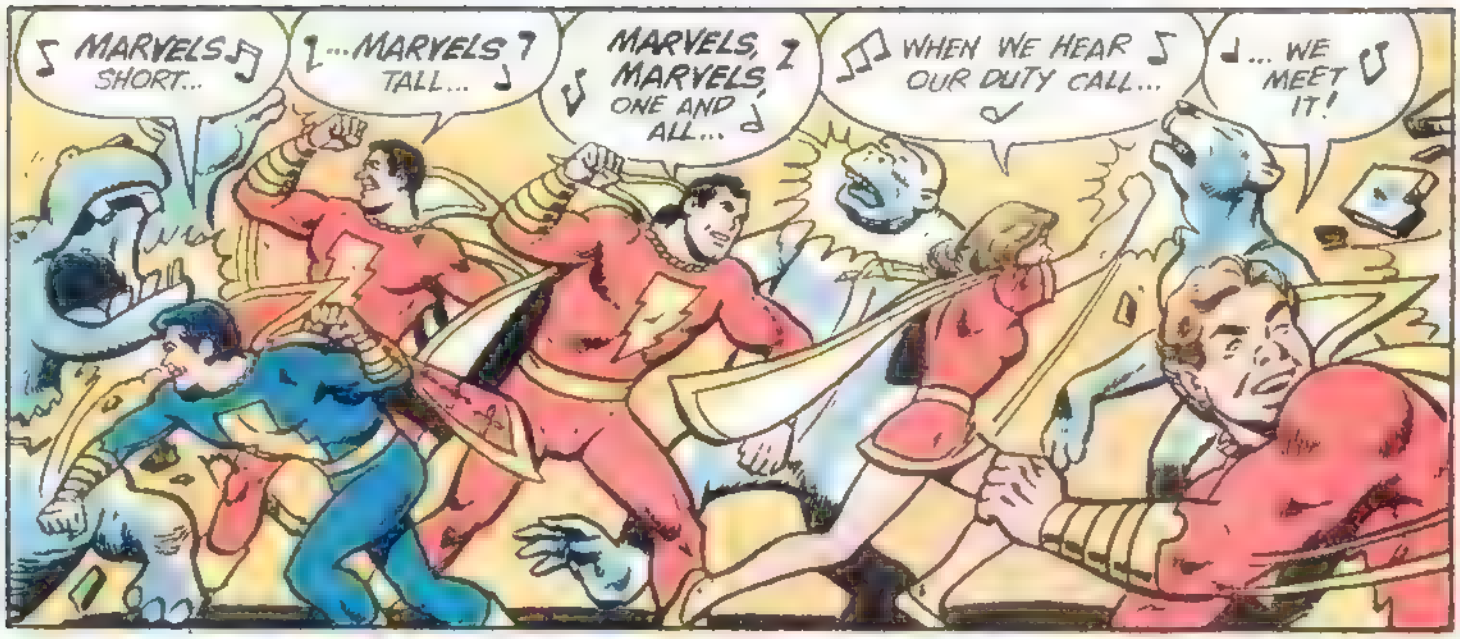
YOU MAKE CRACK ABOUT ME-- I MAD!
You're clothing but a big, dumb Ape!
I FIXIT YOU GOOD!
CLANNGG
OWW! HE NEARLY BROKE MY JAW-- BUT, AS I FIGURED, HIS HAND WAS HARDER THAN THE GAG! NOW...
SHAZAM!
BAROOO MOOO
BOING!
HEY! I GETIT IDEA THAT BOY TRICKIT ME!
LIKE THE OLD PENNSYLVANIA SAYING HAS IT--
--YOU GOT TOO LATE SMART!
10

POW!
YOU NOT BEATIT ME YET!
WELL, THIS SHOULD DO IT!
SMASH
WELL, THAT'S THAT! HE WASN'T REALLY ALIVE, SO I COULDN'T ACTUALLY KILL HIM!
EEYIII!
WHAT WAS THAT?
HOLY MOLEY! SIVANA'S PRODUCED A WHOLE MENAGERIE OF STEEL CREATURES!
11

AS IF THIS WEREN'T ENOUGH, HERE COMES UNCLE DUDLEY WITH MORE BAD NEWS...
WORD JUST CAME OVER THE RADIO-- THESE THINGS ARE COMING FROM EVERY STEEL MILL IN THE AREA!
AND I'M SURE SIVANA HAS THEM PROGRAMMED TO DESTROY THE PLANTS!
I GUESS THIS IS THE TIME TO ASK THE ELDERS' ADVICE!
RIGHT--FAST AS YOU ARE, YOU CAN'T STOP ALL THOSE THINGS AT ONCE!
ACTIVATING THE ETERNI-PHONE, CAPTAIN MARVEL SUMMONS ATLAS...
HOW CAN I STOP SO MANY MENACES? THEY SAY YOU ONCE SUPPORTED THE HEAVENS...
...EXCEPT ONCE, WHEN HERCULES NEEDED MY HELP. THEN HE SUPPORTED MY BURDEN WHILE I FETCHED THE GOLDEN APPLES OF THE HESPERIDES FOR HIM!
YES--EVEN HERCULES NEEDED HELP!
AND REMEMBER THE OLD PROVERB... "MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!"
AFTER ALL, NO ONE'S FURTHER AWAY THAN TEXAS!
SURE-- I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF IT MYSELF-- I'LL GET THE HELP I NEED IN A VERY FEW MINUTES! THE MARVEL FAMILY!
SECONDS LATER, IN NEW YORK...
FREDDY FREEMAN! QUICK! YOU'RE NEEDED IN PITTSBURGH!
CAPTAIN MARVEL!
NEWS
12
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING

WHEN FREDDY SPEAKS HIS HERO'S NAME, MAGIC LIGHTNING TRANSFORMS HIM TO...
...CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!
CAP HAS ALREADY GONE ON!
BDAMM
I'LL GET TO PITTSBURGH!
YES, CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS REACHED BROOKLYN AND FAT BILLY BATSON...
THE THREE LIEUTENANT MARVELS ARE NEEDED IN PITTSBURGH!
FAT MARVEL WILL BE THERE!
SHAZAM!
BRUMMM
NEXT STOP--THE SUBURBS--AND OUR BILLY'S TWIN SISTER, MARY...
MARY--HURRY--GET TO PITTSBURGH AS MARY MARVEL!
BALAMMM
AND IN SECONDS...
THERE'S THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH'S CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING! A 42-STORY SCHOOLHOUSE!
THEN--ON TO NASHVILLE--AND HILL BILLY BATSON...
I NEED HILL MARVEL--IN PITTSBURGH!
MY RECORDING SESSION CAN WAIT--
SHAZAM!
13

BROOOMM
I'M ONE FLIER WHO WHO WON'T HAVE TO LAND AT THE GREATER PITTSBURGH AIRPORT!
AND FINALLY-- IN TEXAS--TALL BILLY BATSON...*
QUICK-- EMERGENCY--IN PITTSBURGH!
YOU'LL BE NEEDIN' TALL MARVEL, EH?
SHAZAM!
*THOUGH FAT, HILL AND TALL BILLY ARE NOT RELATED TO BILLY AND MARY, THEY ALSO HAVE BEEN GRANTED SHAZAM POWERS. --NELSON
BAMM
MARY, JUNIOR AND THE OTHER TWO LIEUTENANTS ARE ALREADY ON THE WAY! THE PLACE IS OVERRUN WITH STEEL BEASTS!
I'LL BE DOGGED!
AND SECONDS LATER, IN PITTSBURGH...
MARVELS HERE...
...MARVELS THERE...
MARVELS, MARVELS EVERYWHERE...
WE CHASE EVIL TO ITS LAIR AND BEAT IT!
14


MARVELS SHORT...
...MARVELS TALL...
MARVELS, MARVELS, ONE AND ALL...
WHEN WE HEAR OUR DUTY CALL...
... WE MEET IT!

WITH OUR MIGHTY STRENGTH AND SPEED..
... WE CAN ALWAYS TAKE THE LEAD...
DOING ANY SUPER-DEED... FIGHTING EVIL IS OUR CREED!

MARVELS CRACK DOWN ON CRIME...
MARVELS STOP IT EVERY TIME..
...AND THEIR VOICES SING THIS RHYME...
...AS THEY GREET IT...
...AND DEFEAT IT!

BUT AS THE LAST OF THE ANIMALS FALLS IN SHATTERED RUINS...
HERE I COME, CAPTAIN MARVEL! EVEN YOU CAN'T BEAT ME!
HOLY MOLEY! A SUPERMAN--MADE OF STEEL!
15

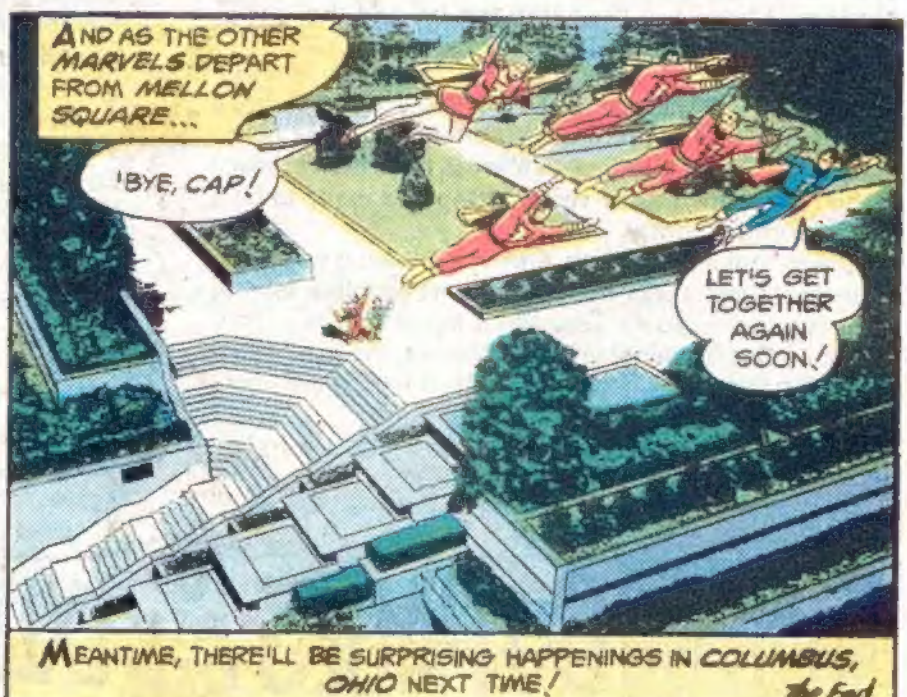
WE'LL HELP YOU WITH HIM, CAP!
SURE--HE CAN'T MATCH ALL OF US AT ONCE!
NO--THIS IS MY FIGHT! I'LL HANDLE IT ALONE!
YOU'RE TOUGHER THAN ANY OF THE OTHERS! HARDER THAN ANY STEEL I'VE EVER SEEN!
RIGHT--
--NOW LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF!
I'LL HAVE TO GO ALL-OUT--WITH MY ATOMIC PUNCH!
I MUST TRY THE MIGHTIEST PUNCH I CAN DELIVER!
THEY BOTH STRUCK AT ONCE!
LOOK WHAT HAPPENED!
HOLY MOLEY!
16

CONCLUDED ON 3rd PAGE FOLLOWING

YES, THAT SUPER-HARD METAL YOU MADE ME OF DID IT!
heh -- I KNEW IT WOULD! THE SECRET INGREDIENT MAKES IT STRONGER THAN CHROME STEEL! AND IT DOESN'T NEED CHROMIUM... WHICH AMERICA HAS TO IMPORT FROM AFRICA OR RUSSIA!

--BECAUSE I'M TAKING IT FOR USE BY THE U.S.A.! THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE IN DISGUISE AFTER SMASHING YOUR SUPERMAN OF STEEL! I USED THE HOMING DEVICE IN HIS ROBOT BRAIN TO LEAD ME TO YOU!
YIIIII! CURSES!

I'LL FIND A WAY TO BEAT YOU YET-- AND WHATEVER CITY YOU'RE IN THEN--WATCH OUT!
YOU'VE BEEN SAYING THAT A LONG TIME, SIVANA--AND I'M STILL ALIVE AND KICKING!



MEANTIME, THERE'LL BE SURPRISING HAPPENINGS IN COLUMBUS, OHIO NEXT TIME!

The End

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE SECOND WEEK IN JUNE

Dear Shazam:

Thank you for a very welcome return of the bad side of the **Marvel Family.** The reincarnation machine was a good way to bring **Black Adam** into the story, although you'd think Sivana would have learned his lesson after Attila the Hun and Benedict Arnold.

The fight scenes were really funny. But I began to doubt the wisdom of **Zehuti** when **Black Adam** was outsmarted by Sivana and then by Dudley. (Did you make up all those Egyptian gods?) One more question: How did **Black Adam** plan to destroy **Shazam?** Isn't he already dead?

Robert MacEwen
16521 SW 82 Ave., Miami, Fla. 33157

(But does *Adam* know *Shazam* is dead? He died while the villain was out in space. Sivana may have figured he'd find a way, though—after all, old Theddeus B. once came close to wiping out *Shazam's* ethereal form. And I did *not* invent those Egyptian gods. In fact, Kurt Schaffenberger's pics of them were based on their depictions in ancient Egyptian art.—*E.N.B.*)

Dear People: • • • • •

I've written to plead a case for **Uncle Marvel.** Twice Uncle Dudley has saved the **Marvel Family** from the menace of **Black Adam.** And yet some people think he's silly! I really like **all** the **Marvels** equally well (which is why I'm so mad, seeing only **Cap** in the last few issues), but if I had to pick a favorite, I'd probably wind up, strange as it sounds, picking Unc. I like the old faker-from-Jamaica—maybe because the other **Marvels** like him. And I don't like seeing only Dudley. Remember—it's the **Marvel FAMILY.** Please show them all.

????
400-S Baychester Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10475

(My apologies—I couldn't make out your signature. Oh, well, some people have had trouble with mine, too. Anyway, I hope you liked Unc last ish and the *Marvel Family* this time around.—E.N.B.)

Dear Joe: • • • • •

Shazam #28 was out of sight. With each new issue, it gets better and better. Kurt Schaffenberger has got to be the best artist for **Captain Marvel.** I was glad Bridwell didn't fully copy the TV version. **Cap** was made to be a serious crime-fighter.

It was about time **Black Adam** returned. It was done believably and I was happy he didn't crumble to dust this time, because he deserves a better fate than that.

Since Dudley became Billy's Mentor, he is more interesting to me. Bring the other **Marvel Family** members into future issues.

It was about time you told us from which Egyptian gods **Black Adam** derived his powers.

And you should use the other Earth-S heroes in future issues.

Charles David Haskell
15 W. 139th St. 4D, New York N.Y. 10037

(Don't be surprised if we bring one of the Golden Age Earth-S heroes into the story next issue. One we did *not* use in the *Justice League* teamup last year!—E.N.B.)

Dear Friends: • • • • •

Although this is a letter to **Shazamail,** I want to preface my comments with some words of praise for this week's entire DC lineup. It seems that every issue I bought was well presented, entertaining, thoroughly enjoyable. I'm getting dangerously close to 30, and suppose myself to be a bit more discriminating than your average reader. But I might just as well have been 12 again for all the fun I had. Thank you for a good week's reading.

It was the current issue of **Shazam** that was, by far, the most fun to read. I'll admit to a touch of bias: **Captain Marvel** is my favorite of all comic characters. Still, some 35 years of **Cap** readers probably share my bias.

Many of the "new" story elements are very like the original 1940's adventures. **Cap's** on-the-road assignments parallel his visits of three decades ago: landmarks are pointed out in a travelogue style; real citizens are often depicted; the action is rather precisely located, unlike the setting of the TV stories.

Sivana is still around, though I wouldn't mind him skipping an issue or two. Just as important, the style of **Captain Marvel** has remained unchanged. I'll qualify that. For me, Schaffenberger's current portrayal is definitive.

So, for all that, **Shazam** #28 was rather like the preceding two. But I really enjoyed them, as well. #28 was a **bit** better, however. For one thing, **Cap** visited the Hub of the Universe (and I'm not referring to the Rock of Eternity), Boston, Massachusetts.

(I'm not as chauvinistic as that statement makes me appear. I'm from **Western** Massachusetts, frequently mistaken by the east as a vassal state. Boston is one of my favorite cities, nevertheless.)

Boston's appearance in your pages was a treat. The travelogue panels were well illustrated. Even the cameo about busing, while a bit silly, was interesting, even clever.

I rather liked the villain of the piece, too. **Black Adam's** resurrection was more credible than **Mr. Mind's;** I've long felt that the Egyptian was the best conceived of the **Marvel** villains—and the least objectionable of the **Marvel** look-alikes. I do want to see more of **Adam,** notwithstanding the effects of **Cap's** (ridiculous) amnesia punch.

Points were scored by you in several other ways: the flashbacks to early Egypt; the ur-**Shazam** pantheon of Egyptian gods; the interplay between Sivana and **Adam;** the Rock of Eternity-to-Boston Tea Party sequence. This was a very fine issue of **Shazam!**

Before 1972, I'd never have expected to see **Captain Marvel** in action again. And now he's on TV—and in a series of comic mag adventures that is finally doing him proud.

By all means, keep it up!

Ross Gerry
36 Baybury Ct.
Greenfield, Mass. 01301

(It's letters like this that make a writer's day! If the sales figures for that issue are as good as the letters—wow!—E. Nelson Bridwell)

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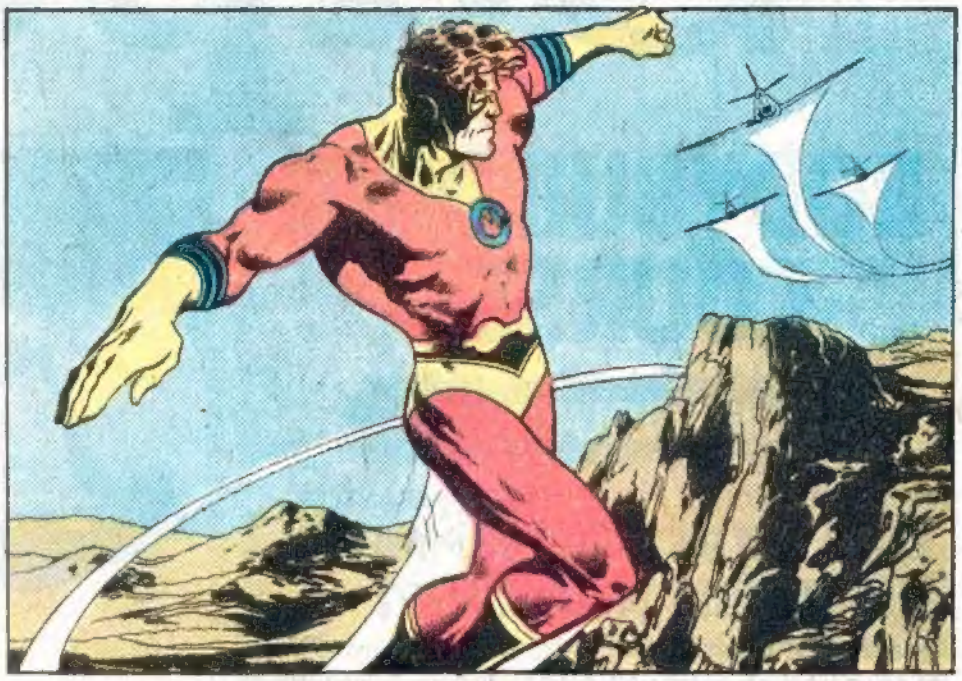
VOLUME 77 ISSUE 15 | WEEK OF APRIL 11, 1977 | BOB ROZAKIS: EDITOR | ANTHONY TOLLIN: PRODUCTION

NEW GODS RETURN!

ORION AND COMPANY BATTLE DARKSEID TO SAVE EARTH

(New Genesis)—The *New Gods Orion, Lightray, Metron,* and all the rest—are coming back to Earth. Their mission: protect the six people on this planet who hold the secret to the Anti-Life Equation that *Darkseid,* Lord of Apokolips, so desperately seeks!

This battle has been fought to a standoff in the past, but now *Darkseid* is armed with deadlier weapons . . . and minions to handle them . . . than ever before. Is the Earth doomed to be the battleground—and the ultimate disaster victim—of this war of the gods? You'll find the answers as *DC* brings you *THE RETURN OF THE NEW GODS #12* during the week of April 18th. Gerry Conway, Don Newton and Dan Adkins have collaborated on "Prelude to a Holocaust" and they (and we) are sure it's an issue you won't want to miss!



DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE THE WEEK OF APRIL 18th

BATMAN FAMILY #12—Three all new stories fill this issue: First, meet the man who claims "I Am Batgirl's Brother" (by Bob Rozakis, Jose Delbo, and Vince Colletta). Then *Man-Bat* tackles the *Sunset Gang* during the "Dread Night of the Jaguar" (Rozakis, Marshall Rogers and Terry Austin). And *Robin* finds his attempts to capture a gang of robbers hampered by a fan club which wants to "Rally 'Round Robin" (Rozakis, Irv Novick, and Colletta.)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES #147—*The Losers* finds themselves in a dangerous card game in "Winner Takes Death" by Bob Kanigher and George Evans. Then, follow *Gunner* and *Sarge* on a solo mission—"An Inch of War" by Bart Regan and E.R. Cruz.

SUPERBOY #229—*Chemical King* is dead and the *Legionnaires* are out for vengeance. "Hunt For a Hero-Killer" is by Paul Levitz, James Sherman and Jack Abel.

UNEXPECTED #180—"The Loathsome Lodgers of Nightmare Inn" by Carl Wessler and Jerry Grandinetti; "Death Can Wait" by Wessler and Franc Reyes; and "Die Laughing" with art by Geroge Tuska.

YOUNG LOVE #126—The list of contest winners is sandwiched inside this issue's tales of romance for the young and in-love.

AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:

BATMAN #289/THE FLASH #251/FREEDOM FIGHTERS #9/HOUSE OF MYSTERY #253/SHAZAM #30/SUPERMAN FAMILY #184/WEIRD WAR TALES #54/WELCOME BACK, KOTTER #5

DRAGON CHARGED WITH TREASON

(New York)—*Richard Dragon* and *Ben Turner* have been charged with treason for their unwitting part in the theft of a top secret submarine. Now, to clear their names, *DC*'s masters of martial arts must track down the sub thief and take him into custody.

But that's a lot easier said than done—especially when the trial leads to the frozen wastelands of the North Pole and brings them face to face with "The Doom Seer" in a Denny O'Neil/Ric Estrada martial arts masterpeice. It's all in *KUNG FU FIGHTER #16* and you can get it during the week of April 18th!

LOLA BARNETT'S COMICSWORLD

The big news this week is *THE NEW GODS,* but didja know that *MR. MIRACLE* will be back in his own book too? Watch for it in June . . . And also in June, *DC* will be bringing you a very special DOLLAR COMIC: *FIVE STAR SUPER-HERO SPECTACULAR* starring *The Flash, Green Lantern, Batman, Aquaman* and *The Atom!* . . . Yes, that sixth month seems to be one for big news, so wait'll you see what happens in *SUPERBOY #231,* also out that month! . . . In the much nearer future, watch for *DC SUPER-STARS #15*—featuring *Sgt. Rock, Mlle. Marie* and the *Unknown Soldier* in an all-new double-length battle thriller! . . . That's all for now—but don't forget the *DC Hotline* for the latest-breaking news!—*Lola*

Solution to last week's MINI-PUZZLE! Watch for a new puzzle in next week's *PLANET!*